



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

JERRY PATTERSON, COMMISSIONER

Office of Communications • Mark Dallas Loeffler, Director
1700 N. Congress Ave. • Austin, TX 78701-1495 • 512-463-5339 • FAX: 512-475-1415

PRESS RELEASE

Treasures of the Texas Coast Children's Art Contest opens

Top prize: United Airline tickets, Royal Caribbean Cruise and a class trip to Schlitterbahn

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Contact: Jim Suydam
512-463-2716
jim.suydam@

AUSTIN — Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson is calling for entries in the 16th annual Adopt-A-Beach "Treasures of the Texas Coast" Children's Art Contest. The deadline to submit artwork is Monday, March 5.

"The goal of this art contest is to drive home the message that trashing Texas beaches isn't cool," Patterson said. "The Treasures of the Texas Coast Children's Art Contest has a Texas-sized grand prize, so get to work now and get that artwork in by March 5."

Ten winners will be chosen from each of four grade-level categories (K - 2nd, 3rd - 4th, 5th, and 6th) for a total of 40 winners. One grand prize winner will be chosen from among the 40 finalists.

This year's grand prize winner will receive two round-trip coach-class tickets from United Airlines to any United destination in the 48 contiguous United States, one 7-night Caribbean cruise from Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines departing out of Galveston, Miami, or Ft. Lauderdale, and a class party at Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels.

The grand prize winner's teacher will also receive two round-trip coach-class tickets from United Airlines, and one 7-night Caribbean cruise courtesy of Royal Caribbean Cruises.

All 40 winners will receive a ticket to the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi, two all-day passes to Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels, two tickets to the permanent exhibit hall at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, a certificate of recognition and prizes from the Texas General Land Office and a calendar displaying the winning artwork.

Winning artwork will appear together in a 2013 calendar, which will be distributed throughout the state.

The Adopt-A-Beach "Treasures of the Texas Coast" Children's Art Contest began in 1996 to mark the 10th anniversary of the Adopt-A-Beach Program. The annual

competition encourages Texas schoolchildren to learn more about the Texas coast and express what they've learned through their art.-

Open to students in grades K-6 across Texas, the contest motivates thousands of young artists each year.

Entries must incorporate the slogan, "Trashing Texas Beaches Isn't Cool." Artwork must be displayed on a plain sheet of white 8 ½-inch by 11-inch paper and can be in any medium except computer generated. Three-dimensional art or artwork displaying logos, product brands and/or store names is ineligible.

Only one entry per student is allowed, and all entries must have a completed parental release form taped to the back. Parental release forms may be printed from the Land Office website located at www.texasadoptabeach.org . Each contest entry must be postmarked by Monday, March 5, 2012, and submitted on an 8 ½-inch by 11-inch sheet of white paper.

Students are encouraged to color copy their artwork prior to sending it in because all artwork submitted becomes property of the Texas General Land Office and cannot be returned.

This year's contest sponsors are Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, United Airlines, Schlitterbahn Waterparks, the Texas State Aquarium and the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

For more information and contest guidelines on the "Treasures of the Texas Coast" 2012 Children's Art Contest, please contact the General Land Office at 1-877-TXCOAST or visit our website at <http://www.texasadoptabeach.org> .

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